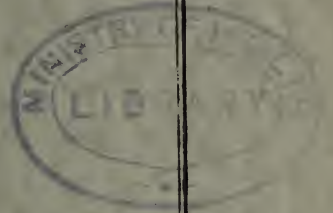


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Urban District Council
of Ince-in-Makerfield



**ANNUAL
REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1954**

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF
INCE-IN-MAKERFIELD



ANNUAL REPORT

for

1954

of the

Medical Officer of Health

INCE-IN-MAKERFIELD
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



Public Health Committee

Chairman :

Councillor S. C. BALDWIN

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor T. SHARPLES

Councillors :

F. BRAGG
G. BYRNE
W. CROOK
T. DOWNING

C. H. HOPPER
P. JONES
W. T. MILLER
W. MOSLEY

W. J. PARR
A. ROWLANDSON
T. SHARPLES
W. R. SIMM
MRS. R. WINSTANLEY

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health :

G. H. POTTER, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

T. HAILWOOD

Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute and S.I.E.J.B.
Meat Inspector's Certificates—Royal Sanitary Institute.
Liverpool University

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

H. TOPPING

Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute and S.I.E.J.B.
Meat Inspector's Certificates—Royal Sanitary Institute.
Liverpool University

Clerical Staff :

Miss J. Robinson

Ince-in-Makerfield Urban District Council

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Public Health Committee.*

Sir, Mrs. Winstanley, and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the Annual Report on the health of the district for the year 1954 compiled in the form indicated by the Ministry of Health.

I take this opportunity of tendering my best thanks to the Officials of the Council, the Staff of the Health Department, and especially to the Sanitary Inspectors for valuable help and co-operation at all times.

I desire also to express to the members of the Public Health Committee my appreciation of the courtesy and consideration they have always displayed towards me.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

G. H. Potter

Medical Officer of Health

1. Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area : 2320 acres.

Population (Census 1951) : 20,414

Estimated mid-1954 (Registrar General): 20,150

Total Number of Houses (Census 1951): 5402

Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1954 according
to Rate Books : 5,629

Rateable value : £69,091

Sum represented by a Penny Rate : £267 (nett)

Ince is essentially an industrial area, the principal industry being coal mining. In addition, wagon works, railway work and cotton spinning mills give employment to both sexes.

VITAL STATISTICS

		Male	Female	TOTAL
<i>Live Births</i> {	Legitimate	176	158	334
	Illegitimate	4	4	8
	TOTAL...	180	162	342
		Male	Female	TOTAL
<i>Still Births</i> {	Legitimate	2	3	5
	Illegitimate	2	0	2
	TOTAL...	4	3	7
		Male	Female	TOTAL
<i>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age</i> {	Legitimate	6	4	10
	Illegitimate	0	0	0
	TOTAL...	6	4	10
		Male	Female	TOTAL
<i>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age</i> {	Legitimate	6	1	7
	Illegitimate	0	0	0
	TOTAL...	6	1	7
TOTAL DEATHS (all ages)		137	94	231

Adjusted Birth Rate per 1,000. of the estimated population mid-1954	16.3
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000. of the estimated resident population..	14.9
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births.....	20.0

	Live Births	Deaths (All Causes)	Still Births		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality					
							Total		Neo-Natal			
	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 pop'n	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 pop'n	No. Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Total Births	No. of Deaths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Live Births	No. of Deaths Regis- tered	Rate per 1000 Live Births		
Year 1954 ...	342	*17.0	231	*11.5	7	20	Nil	Nil	10	29	7	20
Year 1953 ...	328	16.3	201	10.0	11	32	Nil	Nil	14	43	10	30
Year 1952 ...	310	15.3	—	11.2	12	37	Nil	Nil	14	45	11	35
Year 1951 ...	321	15.8	239	11.8	8	24	1	3.04	10	31	5	16
Year 1950 ...	371	18.2	257	12.6	8	21	Nil	Nil	17	46	10	27
Year 1949 ...	394	19.2	246	12.0	9	22	1	2.48	20	51	—	—
Average 5 years 1949—1953 ...	—	17.0	—	11.5	—	27	—	1.10	—	43	—	—

* Adjusted [live birth rate (comparability factor—0.96) = 16.3 per 1000]
[Death rate (comparability factor—1.30) = 14.9 per 1000]

In the next Table are shown the chief causes of Death and number of Deaths from each cause in 1954, as compared with the previous year.

Cause of Death	No. of Deaths	
	1953	1954
Tuberculosis, respiratory	6	2
Tuberculosis, other	1	0
Diphtheria	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0
Meningococcal Infections	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0
Measles	0	0
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	0	0
Cancer	34	29
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	3
Diabetes	0	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	23	27
Coronary disease angina	21	26
Hypertension with heart disease	2	4
Other heart disease	34	43
Other circulatory disease	4	6
Influenza	3	1
Pneumonia	8	10
Bronchitis	21	24
Other diseases of respiratory system	3	5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	4	9
Hyperplasia of prostate	0	0
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	0	0
Congenital malformations	3	2
Other diseases	18	22
Suicide and violent deaths	12	13
	<u>201</u>	<u>231</u>

2. General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

LABORATORY ARRANGEMENTS.

Bacteriological examinations are carried out by the Pathological Department of the Wigan Royal Infirmary and by the Public Health Laboratories, Monsall, Manchester. Bacteriological and chemical examinations of water samples are carried out by the City Analyst, Liverpool. A report on every examination is made to the Public Health Department.

During 1954 reports were made to the Authority on the following specimens : 10 samples of Water, 108 samples of Milk and 42 samples of Ice Cream.

AMBULANCE ARRANGEMENTS.

During the year Non-Infectious, Infectious, Accident and Maternity Cases were dealt with adequately by the motor ambulances belonging to the Lancashire County Council stationed at Hindley and Ashton-in-Makerfield.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

No applications were received during the year under sub-section 3, section 47, of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

3. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER SUPPLY

The District is supplied with water from the Council's own deep wells at Golborne and the Rivington Reservoirs belong to Liverpool Corporation.

The water is naturally very hard, being caused by Calcium and Magnesium Bicarbonate salts, and is softened by lime treatment at the Golborne Waterworks. The water is found to be pure bacteriologically, the supply being constant and sufficient.

During the year one bacteriological and one chemical examination of the raw water were made and found to be satisfactory, although hard. The piped supply of water was examined three times bacteriologically and three times chemically and found to be satisfactory. The analyst however, makes the observation that the results of analysis indicate that the water organically is pure, but the tendency to deposit calcium carbonate is undesirable in a public supply.

All houses in the District have a piped supply of water from the main, with the exception of the house known as Bank Top House on the Aspull boundary, whose supply is derived from an adjacent spring of pure water. One chemical and one bacteriological examination of this water was made and found to be satisfactory. It is not possible at a reasonable expense to connect this house to the Public water main.

No. of houses with a piped supply direct from the					
public water mains ...	...	...	...	...	5628
No. of houses supplied from Springs ...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of houses supplied by stand pipe ...	...	...	...	...	NIL

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The combined system of drainage is in operation throughout the District, and two sewage disposal works are used to carry out normal treatment of sewage.

During the year, 241 inspections were made in connection with drainage and conversions.

No. of choked drains cleared by the Council ...	...	...	176
No. of houses where new drainage was provided ...	...	...	7
No. of conversions to freshwater closets ...	...	...	NIL

The sanitary accommodation in the District at the end of the year was :—

No. of freshwater closets ...	...	...	5890
No. of pail closets ...	...	...	35
No. of privy middens ..	...	...	51

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Street scavenging and removal of house refuse are undertaken by the Local Authority.

Street cleansing is under the control of the Surveyor, 14.56 miles of streets being cleansed by 6 men with 5 Street Orderly Carts.

The collection and disposal of household refuse is under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. Two S.D. Freighter Motor Vehicles are engaged regularly on the collection of household refuse and the emptying of the few privy middens and pail closets that still remain. On one half day per week they are employed in the collection of waste paper from shops. The staff engaged on these duties comprises 2 drivers and 12 labourers. The average interval between collections is 9 days for dust bin refuse and 4 weeks for privy middens. During the year, refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping at three tips in the District, Platt Bridge, Moat House Street and Canal Street. The tips are adequate for the District and entail minimum haulage.

Difficulty is being experienced in maintenance of a 9 day collection service, especially during the holiday periods and the winter months.

Under the provisions of Section 75/3 of the Public Health Act, the Council provide and maintain dust bins for domestic refuse, the expense being met from the general rate fund. During the year 247 dust bins were replaced, 58 supplied to new Council houses and 4 to newly erected other houses.

There are 5660 dust bins, 51 privy middens and 35 pail closets within the District. The amount of refuse dealt with was as follows :—

No. of loads of refuse removed...	...	...	3097
Approx. weight of refuse removed	...	...	6150 tons
Approx. No. of dust bins emptied	...	...	173,410
Approx. No. of privy middens emptied	...	...	620
Approx. No. of pail closets emptied	...	...	1600

Salvage

An incentive bonus scheme was adopted by the Council in 1951, and the workmen engaged on salvage collection are given a bonus at the rate of 33.33% on all waste paper above 4½ tons per month and 33.33% on all other materials salvaged. The collection of kitchen waste has been discontinued.

Total amount and value of salvage collected during 1954 :

			Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	...	...	61	4	3	403	19	0

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

To secure the abatement of nuisances discovered, the following action was taken during the year :—

No. of informal notices served	453
No. of informal notices abated	340
No. of statutory notices served	197
No. of statutory notices abated	173

Record of Nuisances found and remedied

No. of complaints received	826
No. of nuisances and defects found	2135
No. of nuisances and defects abated	1928
(a) as a result of informal action	1311
(b) as a result of statutory notice	617

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

There are no licensed caravans or sites within the District, although there are 13 caravans which have been used as living accommodation over a period of at least 25 years, which are not licensed. They are situated on a site which is provided with pail closets, dust bins, stand pipes for water supply, and a communal wash-house.

The District is visited frequently by gypsy caravan dwellers who, with assistance from the land-owners, are quickly removed as trespassers.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

The Council are members of the Manchester and District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee. A time limit of 2 minutes in every half hour has been fixed for the emission of black smoke.

There are 26 factory and works chimneys within the District. No formal action regarding smoke abatement was necessary during the year, co-operation with local works managers being readily obtained.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There are none in the District.

VERMINOUS PREMISES

During the year 13 Council houses and 18 other houses were found to be infested with bugs. These houses were treated with Zaldecide, a disinfectant containing 5% D.D.T., which has been found to be highly efficient. Periodical inspections of these houses are carried out to prevent re-infestation.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There is only one registered offensive trade (tripe boiler) situate in the District. Many improvements have recently been made to the premises and the trade is carried on without offence.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered common lodging houses, but a Railwayman's Hostel belonging to the British Railways is situate within the District.

This hostel provides accommodation for 35 men and is mostly used by the railway employees working on the main line from London to the North. The premises are clean and generally kept in a satisfactory condition.

FACTORIES

The following table gives particulars of the inspections during the year under Part 1 of the Factories Act, 1937, and an analysis of the defects which were found, with particulars of the action taken.

FACTORIES — DEFECTS FOUND

Particulars	NUMBER OF DEFECTS				No. of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts —					
Want of Cleanliness	7	7	—	1	—
Want of Ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences —					
Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ..	8	8	—	5	—
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS.....	15	15	—	6	—

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspect'ns	No. of written Notices	No. of occup'rs pros'ted
Factories without Mechanical Power...	5	11	—	—
Factories with Mechanical Power....	64	82	—	—
Other premises	2	4	—	—
TOTALS.....	71	97	—	—

Under Part VIII of the Act, visits were made to premises occupied by four outworkers. The premises were satisfactory.

CANAL BOATS

The Leeds and Liverpool canal passes through the District, but the Council is not a Registration Authority under the Canal Boats Act. Most of the canal boats are registered in the County Boroughs of Blackburn and Liverpool. Six canal boats were inspected during the year. No infringements under the Act were found.

SCHOOLS

The water supply to the Schools in the area is constant and sufficient.

The majority of the Schools are provided with separate W.C.'s, each with its own cistern and flushing provision, but in certain schools there still remain forms of automatic flushing. It is desirable in the interest of hygiene that these should be replaced by water closets of the independently flushed type. Regular lime-washing of conveniences is arranged for by the Education Authority in the case of all Schools in the area.

The facilities for the handling of meals at six of the schools are reasonably good, but are unsatisfactory at the remaining three schools.

RODENT CONTROL

The number of complaints received regarding the infestation of rats and mice was 81. A part time rodent operator is employed by the Council. He makes frequent inspections of various premises throughout the District and under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector deals effectively with all infestations discovered.

The sewers were treated twice during the year. 282 man-holes were baited on the first treatment 43 being found to be infested and 247 man-holes on the second treatment, 29 being found to be infested.

The treatment of infestations found at dwelling houses is carried out free of charge, but a charge is made for the treatment of business premises.

The types of bait and poison used during all treatments were sausage rusk and zinc phosphide, and bread mash and arsenic oxide.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This Act provides for a system of licensing and inspection by Local Authorities of Pet Shops. The main purpose is to enforce reasonable treatment and accommodation of pet animals during their sale or keeping for sale.

One person is licensed in the district to keep a Pet Shop. The premises are inspected regularly to ensure that the provisions of the Act are complied with.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Rag flock and other filling materials to which this Act applies may only be manufactured, stored or used in the course of business on premises registered or licensed by the Local Authority. There are no premises used for such purposes within the District.

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS 1928 AND 1936

24 licences to store Petroleum were issued for the year 1954 in respect of 24 premises. 33 inspections being made for this purpose.

One licence for the storage of Calcium Carbide was also issued.

CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDINGS (DEFENCE REGULATIONS)

One licence for the erection of nine terraced houses in Petticoat Lane at a total estimated cost of £12,700 and one licence for the overhaul of a house affected by mining subsidence at a cost of £1,200 were issued during the year.

The Defence Regulations 56A were revoked on 10th November, 1954, and from this date, all building and civil engineering work could be carried out without the need of a building licence.

4. Housing.

The township consists chiefly of working class houses, which are old in type, and congested in certain areas.

Mining subsidence is responsible for much damage to structure, and old houses are continuously in need of repairs, which are rendered difficult by the shortage of labour and building materials.

Most of the bad cases of overcrowding have been relieved, but the situation has not greatly improved owing to newly-married couples having to live with their parents. The problem is not one of inability to pay the rentals of houses but is the actual shortage of houses.

Schemes are in hand for the provision of 100 permanent houses to alleviate the housing position.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year :

Traditional permanent houses :

(i) By the Local Authority ...	...	...	...	52
(ii) By other Authorities ...	...	...	...	—
(iii) By other bodies and persons ...	...	...	...	7

1. INSPECTION of dwelling-houses during the year :

- | | |
|---|------|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... | 1281 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | 1764 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head [1] above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... | — |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | — |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... | — |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation... | 696 |

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS during the year without service of Formal Notices :	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers...	340

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS during the year:
A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
(a) By owners	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	197
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	—
(a) By owners	173
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	8
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	—

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—

E.—Proceedings under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) Number of clearance areas represented	—
---	---

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding :

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	approx. 300
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	approx. 400
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	approx. 2000
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	14
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	17
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	93

5. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

MEAT INSPECTION

There is no slaughter-house in the District. Meat supply is under the control of the Ministry of Food, and all butchers shops are supplied from the slaughtering centre and W.M.S.A. Depots in the County Borough of Wigan. Inspection of meat is carried out at the centralised slaughter-houses before distribution.

UNSOUND FOOD

The various food stuffs detailed in the following table were examined and found to be unfit for human consumption. All were voluntarily surrendered by the owners and destroyed by incineration and by burying on the Council's Refuse Tip.

Article	Container	Weight	
		LBS.	OZS.
Apple Jelly	22 tins	33	0
Apricots	1 tin	1	0
Beans	61 tins	35	5
Beef Loaf	13 tins	16	0
Carrots	3 tins	1	8
Cheese		9	0
Corned Beef	53 tins	185	12
Cream	1080 tins	402	10
Cream Sandwich Biscuit	32 pkts.	16	0
Crab	1 tin		7
Chicken	{ 2 tins	4	0
	{ 1 jar		2
Frozen Egg	2 tins	44	0
Fruit Salad	10 tins	5	0
Grapefruit	10 tins	10	12
Cooked Ham	26 tins	114	13
Milk :—			
Skimmed	1 tin	2	8
Evaporated	135 tins	113	7
Full Cream	3 tins	10	5
Oranges	4 tins	2	3
Peaches	112 tins	57	0
Pears	18 tins	14	13
Peas	105 tins	71	1

Article	Container	Weight	
		LBS.	OZS.
Pineapples	{ 4 jars 25 tins	34	8
Pickles	2 jars	1	4
Plums	192 tins	192	0
Pork Luncheon Meat	144 tins	118	2
Raisins		20	0
Rump and Sirloin		150	0
Soup	9 tins	3	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
Stewed Steak	30 tins	33	14
Stewed Mutton	2 tins	2	0
Salmon Spread	2 jars		7
Strained Food	45 tins	11	4
Strawberry	48 tins	46	8
Tongue	79 tins	233	8
Tomatoes	8 tins	4	6
Turkeys	2	23	8
Veal	{ 1 jar 8 tins	45	5 0

FOODS AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

The Lancashire Council are the "Authority" under this Act, and the following samples were taken by the County Sanitary Inspector.

Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	102
Tea	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Margarine	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Custard Powder	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Orange Drinks	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Oatmeal	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cornflour	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tapioca	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Arrowroot	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sugar	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dessiccated Coconut	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

All the samples were submitted for analysis to the County Analyst and were found to be genuine with the exception of the following :—

Sample	Result of Analysis	Action taken
1 formal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 0.6% of extraneous water.	Vendor cautioned and further sample obtained.
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 1.9% of extraneous water.	Same vendor. Formal sample obtained.
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 6.3% of extraneous water.	
1 informal milk	Deficient 3.3% fat.	
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 0.6% of extraneous water.	Vendor notified.
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 0.6% of extraneous water.	Vendor cautioned and further sample obtained.
1 orange drink	Labelled "Morning Orange — ready to drink". Should be labelled "Whole Orange Drink — ready for use".	Packers communicated with.
1 informal milk	Deficient 5% fat.	Vendor notified.
1 informal milk	Deficient 1.6% fat.	Vendor notified.
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 5.1% of extraneous water.	Same vendor. Formal samples obtained.
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 4.8% of extraneous water.	
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 5.3% of extraneous water.	
1 informal milk	Deficient 23.3% fat.	Formal sample obtained.
1 informal milk	Deficient 6.6% fat.	Vendor notified.

MILK SUPPLY

During the year licenses under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 were issued to the following :—

Dealers of Sterilised Milk...	...	...	...	112
Dealers of Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	30
Dealers of Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk				7
Distributors	...	...	...	15

The 2 dairy farms in the District, having a total of approximately 90 cows, are now under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

There is one milk sterilising plant situate in the district, which is licensed by the Lancashire County Council, where a considerable quantity of milk is sterilised. The premises are kept in a clean and satisfactory condition.

A total of 108 samples of milk were submitted for examination during the year with the following results :—

Type of Milk	Methylene Blue Test		Phosphatase Test		Tuberculosis Test	
	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
Ungraded ...	4	2	—	—	4	1
Heat-treated	50	—	50	—	—	—

Particulars of the sample of milk which failed to pass the Tuberculosis test were forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. This resulted in one cow being removed from the herd.

ICE-CREAM

There are 2 ice-cream manufacturing premises in the District which are of recent construction and contain modern equipment for the efficient heat-treatment and cooling of ice-cream. One of the manufacturers produces a loose ice-cream and the other a wrapped ice-cream. Samples are taken frequently for examination and the results have been very satisfactory.

98 inspections were made of the 49 premises, mostly mixed businesses, which are registered for the sale of pre-packed ice-cream, modern refrigerators being provided in all cases for the storage of the ice-cream.

42 samples of the various ice products sold within the District were submitted for bacteriological examination and were classified as follows:-

Grade 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Grade 2	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Grade 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Grade 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES

The Model Food Bye-laws have been adopted, and all food shops in the District are inspected regularly.

The following are the number of food premises, by type of business, in the district.

Type of Business	No.
Bakehouses	19
Butchers Shops	18
Fish and Chip Shops	23
Wet Fish Shops	4
Ice-Cream Manufacturers	2
Mixed Businesses	122
Greengrocers Shops	9
Food Hawkers Premises	5
Public Houses	39
Canteens and Snack Bars	33

The number of food premises registered by the local authority and the number of inspections made are :—

Type of Business	No. Registered	No. of Inspections
Ice-Cream Manufacturing Premises	2	14
Shops registered for sale of Ice-Cream	49	98
Butchers Shops	18	48
Food Hawkers Premises	5	10

10 hawkers of food products, fish, fruit and vegetables are registered under the Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, which was adopted by this authority in January 1952.

No formal action was necessary in respect of any food premises, the minor defects found at some of the premises being remedied after informally notifying the occupiers. The general standard of cleanliness and food handling at the food shops in the District is satisfactory.

FOOD POISONING

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

6. Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Disease.

During 1954, cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment were removed to Whelley and Astley Hospitals.

94 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year, as against 42 in 1953, and of the 94 cases, 17 were removed to hospital for treatment.

No cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year, or in the previous year.

Supplies of Diphtheria Antitoxin are kept at the Divisional Health Office and the local hospitals, and are always available to the medical practitioners.

Free immunisation against Diphtheria is provided for any pre-school or school-child, and is performed by the Medical Officer at the Central Clinic. During 1954, 170 pre-school and 38 school children completed a full course of primary immunisation with two injections of Alum precipitated Toxoid. In addition, 90 children were given a secondary reinforcing injection.

Number of cases of Infectious Disease notified ; number of Deaths from these Diseases ; number of cases removed to Hospital

DISEASES	Total Under										Total cases removed to Hospital	
	Cases all ages	1	1—3	3—5	5—10	10—15	15—25	25—45	45—65	65 and over		Total Deaths
Smallpox .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	94	...	8	19	56	7	3	1	...	...	17
Diphtheria, including Membranous Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (excluding paratyphoid) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paratyphoid Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles (excluding rubella)	163	10	41	47	65	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	16	...	7	7	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Pneumonia (primary & influenza)...	4	...	...	...	1	...	2	1	...	10	1
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningococcal infection ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis ....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paralytic .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Non-Paralytic .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Encephalitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Infective .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Post-Infective .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
Dysentery	3	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS.....	282	10	58	73	125	7	5	3	1	—	10	18

No preliminary and no post-Schick tests were undertaken.

No immunisation against the Enteric Group was undertaken during 1954.

Outbreaks of Measles and Scarlet Fever of mild type occurred during the early part of the year.

No local action has been taken with regard to the use of measles serum for prophylaxis or attenuation, and there are no existing facilities for the typing of pneumococci and for the provision of appropriate type sera.

The general standard of cleanliness and habits in the District remains high, and the cases of infestation by head lice dealt with at the Clinic were few, and were successfully treated with D.D.T. Emulsion.

DISINFECTION

Disinfection of all houses is carried out after death, removal to hospital or release from isolation of infectious cases. Houses are disinfected by the method of Formalin Spray, and all clothing, bedding etc., are dealt with by the steam disinfector at Platt Bridge.

The following table gives particulars of the disinfections carried out during the year :—

			No. of Cases	No. of Visits	No. of houses disinfected
Scarlet Fever	...	...	94	188	94
Tuberculosis	...	...	—	64	32
Total.....	94			252	126

39 school disinfections were also undertaken.

CANCER

29 deaths (22 male and 7 female) were certified as due to Cancer during the year, as compared with 34 (17 male and 17 female) in 1953.

Facilities for Radium treatment are available to Ince residents at the Radium Institute, Manchester, and at the Wigan Infirmary, which for this purpose, is a sub-clinic of the Manchester Centre.

TUBERCULOSIS

The dispensary service is under the control of the Regional Hospital Board, and Ince cases attend at the Chest Clinic in Millgate, Wigan.

11 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during 1954, 9 being cases of Pulmonary, and 2 cases of non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis. 2 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis were registered during the year.

Notification of the disease in the District is quite satisfactory and no action has been necessary under the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the compulsory removal of tuberculous patients to Hospital.

The subjoined Table shows the new cases of Tuberculosis in age groups, and the total deaths.

TUBERCULOSIS NEW CASES

TABLE D.

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F
0—5	—	—	—	—
5—14	—	1	1	—
15—24	2	1	—	—
25—44	2	1	—	—
45—64	2	—	—	—
65 & up- wards	—	—	1	—
TOTALS... ..	6	3	2	0
	9		2	
Deaths... ..	0	2	0	0
	2		0	

